Bradford Sept 11th 1827.

Dear S.

Every time I write, you see I am in a different place - However this shall be explained in the Sequel. It is some time since I received yours and I should have answered it long ago had I remained stationary and enjoyed an opportunity sufficient for the duty: But since then I have been continually moving and my time has therefore been completely broken up - but no more for excuses - I will first give you a brief epitome of my travels - after assuring you that I received your letter with full as much pleasure, I will warrant, as you did mine.

It is just a fortnight yesterday since I left Andover for Boston - arrived there in the evening and so being at leisure called to see Miss Charlotte H - found them all well - and at one at night left for Northampton - staid there the next night - saw some old classmates - and then left for Hartford - arrived at 7 in the morning - took a walk of about 3 miles and found myself at home eating a piece of mother's apple pie at just 10 - The whole route was very pleasant - friends at home all well - wish to be remembered to S. A. On monday last started for Andover - arrived in B - at 1 in the night - remained there Tuesday saw all the good people and started for And on Wednesday morning - when I arrived my roommate informed me that he was going to Bradford to spend the remainder of his vacation and invited me to go with him - so I agreed to go and wednesday evening at ½ past 7 found myself here where I am to spend two weeks and then I expect to find myself in Berwick - to spend one week with some one I know - guess who if you can.

By the way I saw a Miss Williams and James Barker at Boston. Probably you have heard of the fire in Haverill - it was about ½ a mile from here - The ladies here & the association of ministers who were assembled here turned out and formed a line from the river to the fire & passed the empty buckets in great style - Two or three barns & 2 or three houses were destroyed - it was Tuesday evening. I have now done with news - so I'll write about something more interesting I presume to you and certainly to me.

You said you was "dull" the afternoon you received my last if this finds you in the same predicament I hope it will have the same good effect. Poor ~~man~~ maam Howe she must have felt sad - you should have told her all we said when we went to Piscataqua However I suppose she never will die for the want of news if you dont tell her any - if she does - let her die. I really regret very much that you were obliged to come home alone from the Sabbath School concert - however I suppose you know the road. I was much pleased with the course you pursued respecting visiting Mrs B - s - I should think that after J. B - had received a few more hints and kicks he would be satisfied and indeed he would have been before this had it not been for his ardent desire to revenge on me and Weeks for our interference in his domestic concerns - But the work is done - you now know him - and after you have have known him once I am sure ~~that~~ ~~you~~ ~~see~~ ~~can~~ that neither you nor any one else ~~can~~ ever admire or even respect him - But enough of this - the course you have pursued I think a prudent one and thank you for it - Also I was much rejoiced to find that your practice as well as words manifested that you were entirely weaned from the mansion - On many accounts I respect those girls - and shall certainly call and see them when I come on - but on others I do not respect them - and as you

I found Henry very well - thus in the greatest haste and with hardly time to revise it I have written you: if you can read all I have scribbled I shall be glad - I should be extremely glad to hear from you before I come on if you can make it convenient to write so soon - and I guess you can. write so that I shall receive it here ~~before~~ in the course of 10 days from the date of this. Remember me to Weeks - Yours Sincerely

A. B. Phelps

already know the grounds of my opinion - I need not state them to you again.

I was in hopes of receiving some more explicit information respecting your family trials but I concluded that nothing had transpired aside from their moving worthy of relating or else that you had not entirely mastered your natural reserve in saying any thing on such subjects - but whenever you write never let any such feeling prevent you from unbosoming all your concerns as well as all your feelings. I do not think you have been thus influenced but I know your naturally reserved on such subjects to most of your acquaintances and this may sometimes to you know be extended to those whom you would really be willing to unbosom yourself - I only mention it that in our correspondence we may ever have that same familiarity - that same oneness of feeling - that sympathy in each others sorrows or pleasures - and that tenderness of affection which have rendered the time we have spent together so pleasant and perhaps may day profitable to us. Yes let our feelings - let our adversity - our prosperity [illegible] thing that is ours be one - If the waves of affliction beat heavy on one of us let us unbosom our heart to the other and let the other calm the troubled waves - let us be free & unreserved and then shall the bonds of our affection be fastened firmer and firmer - then shall we be one in heart & one in affection - then shall we know through our lives - what we have already known - the value of an ardent faithful friend.

And now in conclusion permit me to say one word on the frequent advice I have given you as to your course of conduct - for instance your visiting the mansion & a thousand such like minor things. It was always an unpleasant task to me - but as I once before told you I saw you alone & destitute of an adviser - and therefore prompted by the purest friendship - and I ventured to assume the freedom to address you on those subjects and from the kind manner in which you received my advice I was always glad that I did do it - still it was and I have often heard the remark that none but a true friend will venture to tell another his failings - nothing but the most sincere attachment, let me again assure you ever prompted me to assume the familiarity I did. I love you as I do myself - therefore I feel as much bound to watch over your interest and welfare as over my own - I wish you to do the same to me - tell me every failing - freely, faithfully.

Should any one read this letter I should be extremely glad to hear from you - if you can read all & have patience to make it convenient to write me soon - & I guess you can - write me as soon as you receive this - & remember me to [illegible] - yours sincerely

Dingley
West Bradford Mass
Octr 12

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